

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN



Learn more about ChildFund Alliance's collective work on Ending Violence Against Children here:



11 child-focused
development and
humanitarian organisations

70+ Countries

30 million
children and family members

Despite the existence of international protections, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a staggering one billion children face violence each year. The scale and long-lasting effects of violence against children underscore the urgent need for immediate and comprehensive policy interventions.

WHO WE ARE

ChildFund Alliance is a global network of 11 child-focused development and humanitarian organizations reaching nearly 30 million children and family members in more than 70 countries. We are dedicated to creating a world where every child feels safe and protected.

OUR APPROACH

With more than 80 years of collective experience, ChildFund Alliance works to end violence against children through:

- **Child Participation:** Amplifying the voices of children and young people, in all their diversity.
- **Community-Based Approaches:** Building the capabilities of parents, caregivers, and communities to keep children safe.
- **Systems Strengthening:** Strengthening child protection systems at community, national and global levels.
- **Engaging with Government:** Engaging with policy makers through dialogue, advocacy, and partnership.

Our Research: ChildFund Alliance World Index Report 2024

ChildFund Alliance is pleased to announce the launch of our flagship World Index Report 2024, which provides a comprehensive global ranking of 157 countries based on their level of implementation of child rights and identifies areas most urgently in need of intervention. Through consultation with over 10,000 children from over 40 countries the World Index explores children's perspectives on critical issues, including ending violence.

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Cover image:
Jovia (7), Nancy (8) and
Antias (8) attending one of
three ChildFund-supported
child-friendly spaces in
the Palorinya Refugee
Settlement in Northern
Uganda.

CALL TO ACTION

Immediate and comprehensive policy interventions are required to meet the scale and urgency of violence against children.

- Establish and formalize mechanisms for safe and inclusive child participation in decision-making.
- Adopt and implement policies and legislation that protect children, in all their diversity, from violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect, and harmful practices in all contexts.
- Provide and strengthen a continuum of child protection prevention, early intervention, and response services; and enhance data systems and capacity.
- Increase funding for and transparency in budgets (including Official Development Assistance) to End Violence Against Children.

SAFE AT HOME AND IN OUR COMMUNITIES:

- Engage caregivers and communities in the development of child protection laws and policies, integrating community-based mechanisms.
- Strengthen multi-sectoral and collaborative approaches including cross-ministerial collaboration with CSOs, NGOs, community, and private sector.

SAFE AT SCHOOL:

- Develop and implement laws and policies that prohibit the use of corporal punishment in schools, and integrate child protection in education settings.
- Fund and implement 'whole of school' violence prevention education in schools, such as respectful relationship education.

SAFE ONLINE:

- Develop, strengthen, and enforce laws that protect children's data and privacy online; criminalize online child sexual exploitation and abuse; and regulate safety-by-design.
- Strengthen and resource existing child protection systems to incorporate online violence against children.

SAFE IN TIMES OF CRISIS:

- Improve coordination between humanitarian, development and peace-building efforts with a focus on education and child protection systems strengthening.
- Increase investment in education and child protection in emergencies, and strengthen monitoring and reporting.

SAFE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE:

- Ensure essential children's services are integrated into climate adaptation, risk reduction and preparedness efforts at all levels.
- Ensure climate policies and climate adaptation plans recognize and respond to the unique needs of children and young people, with a specific focus on children on the move.




Children in Cambodia playing on tablets after a Swipe Safe training

SAFE AT HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY

- Creating opportunities for children to influence the policies that affect their lives
- Building the awareness of communities, parents and caregivers, and supporting intergenerational solutions
- Strengthening community-based child protection systems and building trusted referral pathways

Building Child Friendly Communities

 Children Believe  India



Using the Child Friendly Accountability Methodology, Children Believe are enhancing child protection and participation in 268 communities in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. This approach empowers children to understand and advocate for their rights. By supporting child-friendly policies and promoting child protection, the program has reached over 200,000 people with 100 communities becoming child-friendly communities.

National Helpline Supporting Children and Young People Affected by Violence

 ChildFund Australia  Papua New Guinea
 ChildFund NZ



The 1-Tok Helpline is a free 24-hour national helpline that provides survivor-centered counselling, information and referral services to survivors of gender-based violence as well as children in need of protection. Receiving over 70,000 calls since launching, the Helpline connects survivors with vital services across the country and is supported by the PNG Department for Community Development and Religion and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

A Community Voice for Children

 ChildFund Japan  The Philippines

This project aims to develop strong, resilient and inclusive civil society organizations, community groups, and networks that can hold their local government accountable for children's rights, with a focus on helping children claim their rights to be protected from violence at school, in the home, and in their communities. Ten child-led groups have now been established and are actively involved in creating child protection activities.

Strengthening Policy and Protection Systems to Address Violence

 ChildFund New Zealand  Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands Endim Vaelens Agenstim Pikinini is a joint advocacy program that works at a community, regional and national level to support families and communities to respond to and address child protection issues. This includes working alongside the Solomon Islands Government on policy and legislative reforms to protect children from all forms of violence. The coalition also works to increase children's participation and introduce children's voices into legislative processes.



Young people advocating for an end to violence in the Solomon Islands



SAFE AT SCHOOL



- Partnering with government to ensure laws and policies address children's safety
- Strengthening school leaders' capability to implement policies and build strong referral pathways
- Building the capability of teachers and school staff to prevent and respond to violence

Re-Engaging Survivors of Violence in Education

 WeWorld  Nicaragua

The ¡PARA! Boys and Girls Free from Violence project improves access to specialized psychosocial support, health, and legal services for indigenous and Afro-descendant children and adolescent survivors of sexual violence. The project deepens inter-service coordination and community support networks improving access to education for survivors. The project is funded by the EU Delegation in Nicaragua.

Integrating Community and School-Based Child Protection Systems

 ChildFund Korea  Kenya
ChildFund International

The Tharaka Nithi Child Protection Project strengthens formal and informal child protection systems, including in schools, alongside community awareness, child rights forums and psycho-social support for survivors of violence. Reaching approximately 44,900 children, the project strengthens child protection in schools through training for school board of management and Child Protection Champions.





Female students taking part in a child-rights club in Kenya

Educo is operationalizing the Bolivian government's violence prevention policies





Strengthening Schools' Capacity to Respond to Violence

 Educo  Bolivia

Educo works to prevent violence against girls, boys and adolescents while promoting harmonious and peaceful coexistence in 235 schools, at pre-school, primary and secondary levels. This has included operationalizing the violence prevention policies established by the Bolivian educational system and strengthening departmental and municipal violence prevention programs and services. Over 80 student governments are now carrying out specific activities to reduce school violence, while more than 5,000 teachers have built their capacity to promote peaceful environments.

Creating a Safe and Peaceful Place to Learn

 WeWorld  Benin

This program aims to address key challenges in Benin's education system, such as school drop-out rates, inadequate school infrastructure, lack of teachers, inequalities and exclusion. The program seeks to provide safe, quality education for all children, by meeting the challenges of the educational system and strengthening child protection mechanisms. This includes prevention initiatives such as trainings of teachers and community members, and the enhancement or establishment of protection mechanisms at school, community, municipal, and state level.

SAFE ONLINE

- Partnering with government to create laws and policies that protect children online
- Building the knowledge and capability of parents, caregivers, and frontline workers
- Supporting children to be effective and responsible digital citizens





Swipe Safe is helping children in Vietnam safely navigate the digital world

Swipe Safe: Empowering Young People to Navigate the Digital World

 ChildFund Australia  Asia-Pacific



The Swipe Safe App is a hands-on learning tool that equips young people with the knowledge and skills to stay safe online. To reinforce learning and ensure maximum impact, Swipe Safe is supported by a face-to-face training program delivered to young people, parents, and frontline workers. Since its inception in Vietnam, Swipe Safe has reached over 53,000 children and young people across the Asia-Pacific.

Addressing Emerging Threats Facing Young People Online

 ChildFund Alliance  Global



As digital technologies are rapidly expanding, children face unprecedented threats to their safety and well-being. WEB Safe & Wise works in partnership with children to create tools to help them be effective digital citizens able to navigate the online world safely. The initiative aims to strengthen laws and policies to protect children online, while building children's skills and knowledge.

Addressing Online Safety across Borders

 ChildFund International  Africa

ChildFund is working in partnership with the African Union to serve as the lead civil society liaison on children's online safety. ChildFund and partners will support the African Union Commission in developing the African Union Model Law on Child Online Safety. This will act as a guideline for member states to develop and harmonize legislation and policies to ensure an acceleration in the fight against online child abuse and the protection of children in cyber space.

A Whole Community Response to Digital Dangers

 ChildFund International  Kenya

Safe CLICS (Safe Community Linkages for Internet Child Safety) aims to increase awareness about online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSEA), build young people's online safety skills, improving the ability of service providers, schools, communities, parents and caregivers to detect and respond to OCSEA and strengthening Kenya's national framework and improving interagency coordination. The project has gained recognition through media platforms for advocating for safer internet spaces for children.



Kenyan students are being equipped with digital literacy skills

SAFE IN TIMES OF CRISIS




- Providing children with safe access to basic needs and education in emergencies and protracted crises
- Establishing and strengthening child protection systems in humanitarian response and protracted crises

Enhancing Child Protection for Children in Cox's Bazar

 ChildFund Australia  Bangladesh
 ChildFund New Zealand
 Educo

Educo's program in Cox's Bazaar strengthens the capacity of community groups, leaders, children, youth, government and humanitarian workers to enhance child protection, address gender-based violence and mitigate disaster risks. The project has reached 16,540 children, young people and adults through 25 community-based child protection committees, 30 adolescent and youth clubs, and women support groups.

Protecting Children in Crises and on the Move



 ChildFund International  Ecuador, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Uganda, Ethiopia
 Educo

ChildFund's holistic approach for children in crisis unfolds across the migration cycle, prioritizing children's protection and inclusion. ChildFund deploys StopGate programming to address immediate protection needs. ChildFund builds child-friendly spaces as places where children can learn and play in safety, with access to psychological first aid to address any mental health issues that arise, while their parents and caregivers seek the resources they need.





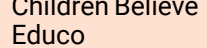

Honduran children and their families on the move

Helping Children Overcome the Trauma of War

 ChildFund Deutschland  Ukraine

This project aims to strengthen the resilience and improve the mental health of kindergarten and primary school children for children in Ukraine and includes a training program for educators to help children overcome stress and trauma. The approach can be applied during the current conflict and in the post-war period but is also applicable for other life situations that are stressful for children, such as parental divorce, relocation, illness of a loved one or bullying.

Preventing Irregular Child Migration



 ChildFund International  Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua
 Children Believe
 Educo

This project was designed to contribute to the prevention of irregular migration of children and youth, by addressing adverse drivers and structural factors in the countries of origin. These include high levels of violence, lack of employment, poor quality education, social exclusion and misinformation/lack of information on the dangers of irregular migration. The project focused on strengthening child protection services and violence prevention programs, increasing employment and entrepreneurship skills, and promoting engagement of youth with government institutions.

SAFE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE



- Supporting schools and communities to prepare for climate-induced disasters through integrated disaster risk reduction, preparedness and adaptation with a focus on child protection
- Understanding and addressing the multiplier effect of climate change on children’s right to safety

Challenging Harmful Coping Mechanisms in a Changing Climate

 Barnfonden
ChildFund International  Ethiopia

Climate change is impacting livelihoods, resulting in children being removed from school to engage in child labor. The CIRCLED project builds community knowledge and family resilience in the face of shocks such as drought and floods, ensuring children are not negatively impacted. This has resulted in a reduction in child labor from 45% to 5%. The project is delivered with funding from Radiohjalpen.

Protecting Children in the Context of Food Insecurity

 ChildFund Deutschland
WeWorld  Ethiopia
ChildFund International Burkina Faso

The second phase of the Joining Forces for Child Protection in Emergencies intervention in Ethiopia and Burkina Faso funded by German Federal Foreign Office uses a socio-ecological model, focusing on the link between food security and child protection risks in humanitarian settings. By strengthening referrals and health services, the project aims to reduce violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation for 25,952 children affected by crises and food insecurity.





Extreme weather events in Ethiopia are exacerbating child protection risks

Young climate change activists in Sierra Leone



Youth Speak Out on Climate Action

 ChildFund International  The Philippines, Brazil, Mexico, The Gambia, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Bolivia

ChildFund invited young climate advocates to share their ideas on climate action leading up to UNICEF’s NGO consultation “Partnering for children in the climate crisis”. Over 400 youth from seven countries responded, recommending that NGOs, communities and governments meaningfully include youth in decision-making on climate action initiatives, provide learning opportunities, and equip youth with skills and tools to ensure their safety and protection in diverse spaces.

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN: A CALL TO ACTION

Immediate and comprehensive policy interventions are required to meet the scale and urgency of violence against children

- Establish and formalize mechanisms for safe, inclusive, and meaningful child participation in decision-making.
- Adopt and implement policies and legislation that protect children, in all their diversity, from violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect, and harmful practices in all contexts.
- Provide and strengthen a continuum of child protection prevention, early intervention, and response services; and enhance data systems and capacity.
- Increase funding for and transparency in budgets (including Official Development Assistance) to End Violence Against Children.

Safe at home and in our communities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage caregivers and communities in the development of child protection laws and policies, integrating community-based mechanisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen multi-sectoral and collaborative approaches including cross-ministerial collaboration with CSOs, NGOs, local communities, and the private sector.
Safe at school	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop and implement laws and policies that prohibit the use of corporal punishment in schools, and integrate child protection in education settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fund and implement ‘whole of school’ violence prevention education in schools, such as respectful relationship education.
Safe online	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop, strengthen, and enforce laws that protect children’s data and privacy online; criminalize online child sexual exploitation and abuse; and regulate safety-by-design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen and resource existing child protection systems to incorporate online violence against children, including threats from artificial intelligence.
Safe in times of crisis	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve coordination between humanitarian, development, and peace-building efforts with a focus on education and child protection systems strengthening.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase investment in education and child protection in emergencies, and strengthen monitoring and reporting.
Safe in a changing climate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure essential children’s services are integrated into climate adaptation, risk reduction, and preparedness efforts at all levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure climate policies and climate adaptation plans recognize and respond to the unique needs of children and young people, with a specific focus on children on the move.

THE CHILDFUND ALLIANCE

BUILDING A SAFER WORLD FOR CHILDREN

ChildFund Australia manages and implements programs in the Mekong and the Pacific while supporting projects delivered by partner organizations throughout Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Work is funded through public donations and government grants. Flagship programs include Swipe Safe, which teaches children to safely navigate the online world. Sport for Development, through the power of sport, creates more inclusive communities for children and young people and supports them with essential social and emotional skills and knowledge to realize their potential.

childfund.org.au

ChildFund Deutschland is a child protection organization working to improve the future opportunities of children in need, their families, and their entire environment on an international scale since 1978. Aid and development projects are financed by private and institutional donations and focus on child protection, education, food security and income-generating activities. ChildFund Deutschland also provides emergency aid in crises. Projects are carried out in cooperation with ChildFund Alliance members and with local partner organizations.

childfund.de

ChildFund International is the Alliance's member based in the United States. We work throughout Africa, Asia and the Americas to connect children with the people, resources and institutions they need to grow up healthy, educated, skilled and, above all, safe—at home, at school, online. Delivered through over 150 local implementing partner organizations, ChildFund International's programs address the underlying conditions that prevent any child or youth from achieving their full potential.

childfund.org

ChildFund Japan was established in 1952 as a recipient for ChildFund International sponsorship funds in support of Japanese orphans following World War II. Since 1975, ChildFund Japan has been working in the Philippines and Nepal to help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children, families and communities through meaningful, sustainable solutions. The essence of the sponsorship approach, which connects people one-to-one, is embedded in ChildFund Japan's organizational culture. childfund.or.jp

ChildFund Korea has played a pivotal role in enhancing South Korea's child welfare laws, policies, and system development since initiating relief efforts for war orphans in 1948. As a leading child-centered non-governmental organization in the country, we are expanding efforts to close the gap in the growth environment among children in over 30 countries, including Korea. Leveraging collaborative partnerships with ChildFund Alliance members and local partners, ChildFund Korea is committed to fostering a world where children can thrive and be happy by supporting child rights-based programs emphasizing direct support, capacity building, and advocacy activities.

childfund.or.kr

ChildFund New Zealand works to create conditions where children and youth are educated, healthy, protected, engaged and resilient. ChildFund New Zealand believes the strongest development outcomes are achieved through work designed, implemented, and evaluated by local partners in their specific areas of need. We work in Kenya, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Zambia using long-term strategic plans unique to each community. We also work children and youth in Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Kiribati focusing on child protection, youth social and emotional wellbeing, and disaster risk reduction.

childfund.org.nz



Barnfonden is a child rights organization based in Malmö, Sweden, focused on children's rights and safety in vulnerable areas that are heavily affected or at risk of being affected by climate change. We work with children to create sustainable solutions that protect and strengthen their rights and well-being through partnerships, local ownership, and a holistic perspective. Through long-term work and innovative solutions, Barnfonden is committed to creating resilience and ensuring children's right to safety, education, good health, and a life free from violence.

barnfonden.se

Children Believe is a Canadian independent registered charity that manages and directly funds program activities in its countries of operation. For over 60 years, Children Believe has brought together "brave young dreamers, caring supporters and partners, and unabashed idealists." We are driven by the belief that access to education—inside and outside of classrooms—is the most powerful tool children can use to change their world. Through our work, we are helping 900,000 children, youth, women and men change their lives.

childrenbelieve.ca

Educo is a non-governmental organization that works in more than 14 countries for the wellbeing and rights of children, especially the right to receive a quality education. Educo stands with children all over the world, especially those who live in situations of vulnerability, poverty, or lack of opportunities. Whatever happens, nothing can stop us: in any crisis, armed conflict or emergency, education cannot stop. Because education is urgent: it heals, empowers, and protects.

educ.org

Un Enfant par la Main is a French not-for-profit organization helping vulnerable children in rural isolated areas gain full access to their rights, through a systemic, pragmatic, collaborative and sustainable approach to development. UEPLM works directly in Haiti and Madagascar and with local partners in the areas of child protection, education, health, access to water & sanitation, nutrition and income-generation activities. Communities, families and local authorities are involved in the identification of local priorities and action plans. UEPLM funding sources include the sponsorship of more than 12,000 supporters, private individual and corporate donations, and institutional funds.

unenfantparlamain.org

WeWorld is an Italian organization operating in 27 countries with development cooperation and humanitarian aid projects to guarantee the rights of the most vulnerable communities, especially women and children. WeWorld has been working for more than 50 years for a better world where everyone has equal opportunities and rights, access to resources, health, education, and dignified work. A world in which the environment is a common resource to be respected and preserved; in which war, violence, and exploitation are banned. A world that belongs to everybody and where no one is left behind.

weworld.it



Juliana, age 9, attend a ChildFund-supported school in Ecuador where she participates in the Safe and Protected Children program

ChildFund[®]
Alliance

Every child deserves to live a life free from violence.

childfundalliance.org

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